

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: CO-120-2008-11-CX

PROJECT NAME: North Park Snow-cross Snowmobile Events

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SW1/4, SW1/4 Sec. 20, T. 9 N., R. 79 W.

APPLICANT: North Park Chamber of Commerce and North Park Snow Snakes

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Proposed Action would authorize competitive snowmobile events at Walden Reservoir on January 12 & 13 and March 1 & 2, 2008. The Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office would co-sponsor these events as cooperators with the North Park Chamber of Commerce as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed 4/24/06 (see attachment #2 for copy of MOU).

These events would host approximately 150 to 300 competitors and spectators. The competition race course, staging area, and spectator viewing would take place on the frozen reservoir and snow covered area west of County Road 15 within the SW1/4, SW1/4 of Sec. 20, T. 9 N., R. 79 W. Additional parking and the vending area would be limited to the adjacent private land (the snow covered area west of County Road 15 in the SW1/4, SW1/4 of Sec. 20, T. 9 N., R. 79 W), and on the existing roadways. Portable toilets would be provided for spectators and competitors, and an ambulance would be located on site (see attachment #1 for project map).

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

Decision Number/Page: Decision Number II B 7a/ Page 11

Decision Language: a. Objective. "To ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities which the public seeks and which are not readily available from other sources, to reduce the impacts of recreational use on

fragile and unique resource values, and to provide for visitor safety, and resource interpretation.”

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4, Number: (H., 1) *“Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan. This CX cannot be used for commercial boating permits along Wild and Scenic Rivers. This CX cannot be used for the establishment or issuance of Special Recreation Permits for “Special Area” management (43 CFR 2932.5).”* None of the following extraordinary circumstances in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Extraordinary Circumstances	Yes	No
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety		X
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		X
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
2.9 Violate a Federal Law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		X

2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		X
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INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
John Monkouski	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation	12/5/07
Joe Stout	P&EC	NEPA Compliance	1/3/08
Bill Wyatt	Archeologist	Cultural	12/5/07
Megan McGuire	Wildlife Biologist	T&E Species	12/5/07

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: All activities are to be restricted to the reservoir and snow packed areas as defined in the Proposed Action. There would be no historic properties affected.

Native American Religious Concerns: Due to the limited surface disturbance that would occur as a result of the Proposed Action, there would be no impacts to Native American Religious concerns.

Threatened and Endangered Species: There would be no impact to threatened, endangered, or sensitive species.

NAME OF PREPARER: John Monkouski

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Joe Stout

DATE: 1/3/08

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1). Project Map
- 2). MOU

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CER and have decided to implement the proposed action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an extraordinary circumstance and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ David Stout

DATE SIGNED: 1/4/08